NJ BICYCLE & PEDESTRIAN RESOURCE CENTER

Educate. Encourage. Empower.

August 27, 2026

Dear Readers,
Welcome to this issue of the NJ Walks and Bikes Newsletter funded by the NJ Department of Transportation. If you would like to learn more about the NJDOT Bicycle and Pedestrian Resource Center, please visit us **here**.

Join Us at the Next BPAC Meeting on September 23, 2026

General Meeting, 9:30 am – 11:30 am
Coffee chat begins at 9:15 am

The New Jersey Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Council (BPAC) is coordinated by the Voorhees Transportation Center on behalf of the New Jersey Department of Transportation. BPAC is open to everyone.

The final meeting agenda is in development, but will include an update on the New Jersey Bicycling Manual.

To participate, **please register** using the following link:

Register Here

Applications now being accepted for 2027 federally-funded Safe Routes to School grants

The New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT) has announced the grant solicitation period for the 2027 Safe Routes to School (SRTS) program is open, with applications being accepted through November 13, 2026. The program is administered by the NJDOT Division of Local Aid and Economic Development, in partnership with the North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority (NJTPA), the Delaware Valley Regional

Planning Commission (DVRPC), and the South Jersey Transportation Planning Organization (SJTPO).

SRTS grants are available for infrastructure projects that encourage and enable students to walk and bike safely to school. Proposed infrastructure improvements must be within a two-mile radius of a K-12 school. SRTS facilitates the planning, development and implementation of projects that improve safety and air quality, as well as reduce traffic and fuel consumption, around schools.

Mandatory One-on-One Application Meetings will be held from August 17 through October 16, 2026 to provide direct assistance to applicants in developing better and stronger applications. Meetings **must be scheduled by October 9, 2026** through the **NJDOT Local Hub**.

Interested applicants can also register for free online webinars that will provide information about applying for Safe Routes to School grants in New Jersey. These grant webinars will be held:

Wednesday, September 9, 2026, from 10am to 11:30am — **Register here**!
Thursday, September 24, 2026, from 10am to 11:30am — **Register here**!
Thursday, October 8, 2026, from 1pm to 2:30pm — **Register here**!

Safe Routes to School Grant Information.



Make your voice heard at the New Jersey Target Zero Commission public hearing on **Tuesday, September 1, from 2-4 PM**. This event will be both in person and virtual. After an update on the implementation of the Target Zero Action Plan, attendees will be given an opportunity to provide feedback.

The hearing will be held at: NJ TRANSIT Headquarters Building, Two Gateway, 283-299 Market Street, Newark, NJ. A virtual link will be provided on the **NJ Target Zero Website** prior to the meeting.

Target Zero Website.



Autonomous Delivery Robots in Jersey City: What They Mean for Sidewalk Accessibility

Walking around Jersey City, you may encounter a new type of road user. In February 2025, Uber Eats and Avride expanded their autonomous-vehicle (AV) delivery pilot program to Jersey City, introducing small sidewalk-operating robots known as Personal Delivery Devices (PDDs). Although some businesses report benefits, many residents have expressed safety concerns. In October 2025, an Uber Eats delivery robot collided with a Jersey City resident on a bike in an on-street bike lane, resulting in a concussion and broken clavicle.

While partnerships between robot companies and platforms like Uber Eats and DoorDash are intended offer restaurants a cost-effective and energy efficient way to meet growing demand for food delivery, **backlash has emerged** in cities piloting these programs. Published studies have shown the robots can **affect the movement patterns of crowds** and **cause discomfort** for residents. Currently, there are no uniform policies that regulate delivery robots and their use of sidewalks.

Continue reading the article.



Report Release – Incentivizing E-bikes in New Jersey: Lessons from E-bike Rebate Programs in North America

As e-bike adoption increases across the United States, policymakers are exploring incentive programs that make e-bikes more accessible while advancing broader transportation, environmental, safety, and equity goals. This report examines best practices from e-bike incentive programs across North America and considers their implications for New Jersey in light of the state's recently enacted NJ E-bike Law.

Continue reading the article.

How the Safe System Approach Is Creating Safer Roads *(TR News)*

After years of troubling spikes in traffic fatalities across the United States, recent data show a decline in the number of deaths and serious injuries. While encouraging, the pace of improvement is not fast enough to meet the U.S. Department of Transportation's ambitious goal of eliminating 66 percent of vehicle-related fatalities by 2040. Achieving this target will require a major shift in how agencies at all levels design transportation systems.

One promising intervention gaining traction is the Safe System Approach (SSA). Unlike traditional methods, which try to design roadways to eliminate any possibility of a crash occurring, the SSA acknowledges that human error is inevitable and emphasizes designing transportation systems that minimize the resulting harm to road users.

Learn more here.

NJDOT is Hiring!

Three entry-level positions are now available at the Bureau of Research, Innovation & Information Transfer. Candidates must possess a Bachelor's degree in any engineering discipline. Serving as the research and innovation hub for NJDOT, the Bureau spearheads projects exploring emerging technologies such as artificial intelligence (AI). The position closes on September 2nd.

Job posting PDF.



New Streetscape Renderings Offer First Detailed Look at Proposed Downtown Cranford Transformation *(TAPinto Cranford)*

Cranford residents can now get their most detailed look yet at what the proposed Downtown Streetscape Project could look like, as a series of new schematic renderings have been posted to the project's website. The illustrations bring to life many of the concepts township officials have discussed in recent months, including expanded public gathering spaces, new landscaping, improved pedestrian connections, and redesigned intersections intended to improve safety and traffic flow.

Learn more here.

Metuchen Officials Highlight New Community Policing, Pedestrian Safety Efforts *(Patch Edison)*

The Metuchen Police Department announced a new Pedestrian Safety Enforcement division, meant to improve safety and mobility for downtown residents. Officers will utilize a mix of community policing and active patrolling to improve traffic safety. Senior department staff discuss current and historical success stories using these tactics.

Learn more here.

Cops went undercover to ticket drivers who blew through crosswalks (NJ.com)

A Jersey Shore police department issued 38 traffic tickets in just a few hours as part of a campaign called “Cops in Crosswalks.” The Long Beach Township Police Department conducted the specialized traffic detail on Aug. 4. For four hours, officers acted as undercover pedestrians in crosswalks throughout the town. When vehicles failed to stop for the undercover pedestrians, they alerted other officers who were in marked patrol cars. The drivers were then pulled over and issued a ticket. The detail also led to one warrant arrest, the department said.

Learn more here.

Burlington County Developing Plan for Improving Pedestrian and Bicyclist Safety

(burlingtoncountynj.gov)

The County's Department of Resource Conservation is partnering with consultant NV5 to evaluate community conditions and recommend improvements to enhance walking and cycling. County planners distributed a public survey and interactive map to facilitate community input.

Learn more here.



New Pedestrian Bridge Installed Along Route 206 In Hillsborough

(Patch)

The reopened pedestrian bridge follows a year-long closure due to safety concerns.

Township Mayor Catherine Payne discusses how the new bridge will impact pedestrians.

Learn more here.



City launches robot-assisted sidewalk assessment to advance Vision Zero and ADA accessibility planning

(hobokennj.gov)

City officials announced the rollout of robotic scanners that collect condition data across a range of pedestrian infrastructure.

The robots will analyze surfaces to inform ADA interventions and ensure data privacy during initial testing.

Learn more here.

N.J. highway that has killed 10 pedestrians and cyclists may finally get a safer crossing

(NJ.com)

Burlington County commissioners have announced a preliminary plan to extend the Rancocas Creek Greenway Trail across Route 130 and the Rancocas Creek. The connection would link three county parks with a new pedestrian and bicycle bridge designed to provide safe passage near one of New Jersey's most dangerous highways. The proposed extension would stretch from Pennington Park in Delanco to Willingboro Lakes Park in Willingboro and Rainbow Meadow Park in Delran.

Learn more here.



Hawthorne Secures $15K Grant for Pedestrian Safety Demonstration Project

(TAPinto Hawthorne)

After almost 100 crashes, local officials plan to use grant funds to improve pedestrian safety in downtown Hawthorne.

The project will coordinate with service providers across five main initiatives.

Learn more here.

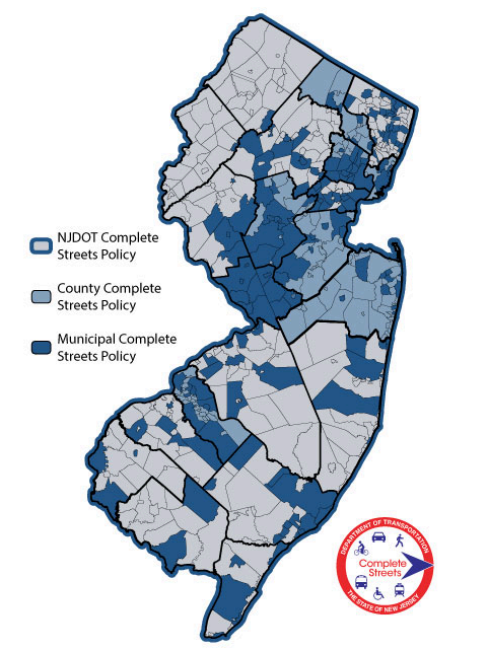


Menendez, Pou, and Guy Announce $3 Million in Federal Funding for Pedestrian and Cyclist Safety Improvements

(Office of Rep. Rob Menendez)

A multi-level legislative effort secured grant funding for new streetscape improvements in East Newark, Harrison, and Kearny. This award is part of a larger funding package to deliver further community improvements.

Learn more here.



An up-to-date list of Complete Streets policies in New Jersey

There are currently **186** municipalities and **8** counties with Complete Streets policies in New Jersey.

This brings the total New Jersey population living in municipalities with Complete Streets policies to over 4 million people, or 46% of the population.

Click here for the complete list of policies.

To access the most up-to-date list of Complete Streets policies adopted in the state, click the button!

NJDOT Bicycle and Pedestrian Resource Center
Phone: (848) 932-7901 | bikeped@ejb.rutgers.edu | njbikeped.org

Visit Our Website

Voorhees Transportation Center | 33 Livingston Avenue | New Brunswick, NJ 08901 US

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